

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:
  - image forming stations for respective colors arranged along an intermediate transfer belt, each said image forming station including an image carrier;
  - a charging means and a developing means disposed around said image carrier;
  - a housing body in which said image forming stations and said intermediate transfer belt are situated;
  - a support frame for supporting a driving roller and a driven roller ~~rollers~~ around which said intermediate transfer belt is laid with some tension;
  - an image density detecting means which is arranged to face said intermediate transfer belt; and
  - a locking means, disposed on the side of said driven roller, for locking said support frame to the housing body;
  - wherein said support frame is attached to the housing body such that the support frame is detachable relative to the housing body by means of pivotal movement; and
  - wherein said image density detecting means is connected to the support frame, in proximity to said locking means.

2. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transfer belt is a paper carrying belt.

3. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transfer belt is an intermediate transfer belt.

4. (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
image forming stations for respective colors arranged along an intermediate transfer belt,  
each said image forming station including an image carrier;  
a charging means and a developing means disposed around said image carrier;  
a housing body in which said image forming stations and said intermediate transfer belt  
are situated;  
a support frame for supporting a driving roller and a driven roller ~~rollers~~ around which  
said intermediate transfer belt is laid with some tension;  
an image density detecting means which is arranged to face said intermediate transfer  
belt;  
wherein said support frame is attached to the housing body such that the support frame is  
detachable relative to the housing body by means of pivotal movement; and  
wherein said image density detecting means is connected to the support frame, in  
proximity to ~~one of~~ said driving rollers which is ~~the nearest to~~ the pivot of said support frame.

5. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said transfer belt is a paper carrying belt.

6. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said transfer belt is an intermediate transfer belt.